



# PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:**

Luis G. Gutierrez  
Audience Development Coordinator  
915/541-4481

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ARTS & CULTURE DEPARTMENT SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR ARTIST REVIEW PANEL

El Paso, Texas; December 3, 2003 - The City of El Paso Arts and Culture Department (ACD) is seeking qualified individuals to serve as Artist Review Panelists. Their role will be to assist the ACD Advisory Board in reviewing the applications of local artists interested in participating at ACD events. Selected panelists serve one-year terms and meet each Spring to review music, visual arts and Arts in Education applications.

**Panel Membership Criteria:**

1. Knowledge - a panel member must be a recognized expert or knowledgeable lay person in a given arts discipline or field.
2. Understanding - a panel member's knowledge must relate not only to a given discipline or field but to the diversity and cultural, ethnic, aesthetic and artistic plurality of the arts in El Paso.
3. Experience - a panel member must be able to demonstrate a history of involvement in the field.
4. Standards - panel members must be dedicated to the highest professional standards within their respective discipline or field.

**Responsibility:**

A panel member must attend the panel meeting scheduled each year. Panelists receive copies of applications in advance and are required to review them prior to the panel meeting. Lastly, panelists will review applicant's files as part of the pre-panel orientation.

**Advisory Panels are designed to:**

- Provide a qualitative evaluation of the applications submitted;
- Rank all applications as to their relative merit based on all other applications;
- Provide knowledgeable advice and guidance to the department and board in working with a given group/artist (panelists do not make funding decisions).

**Nomination Process:**

1. Nominations may be made by any interested individual or organization.
2. Nominations must be received by January 31, 2004, and include the following:
  - a) a completed nomination form with all questions answered,
  - b) a prepared statement of the nominee's qualifications specifically addressing panel membership criteria,
  - c) a copy of the nominee's current resume, with references.

**A variety of backgrounds and broad discipline representation must be included on each Advisory Review Panel.****Panelists selected must represent:**

- Professionals in the field; educational institutions; and individual artists;
- Appropriate geographic, disability and minority representation;
- A balance of knowledgeable lay and professional representation.

Applications are available at the Arts & Culture Department office located on the sixth floor of City Hall. For more information call 915.541.4481. **Application deadline is January 31, 2004.**

**The mission of the City of El Paso Arts & Culture Department is to deliver high quality arts and cultural experiences, and showcase El Paso as an international cultural destination.**

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